

ICT Audits

Paul Bellamy



Nottinghamshire
County Council

Identify activities

- ICT Strategic Plan
- Council and service plans
- ICT infrastructure management system
- ICT Service catalogue
- Consultation with ICT and operational service managers



Risk scoring

- Apply the Internal Audit risk scoring methodology
- Factors
 - Priority of service and the impact if it failed
 - Activity stability and complexity
 - Legal or regulatory compliance and the confidentiality nature of data held
 - Time since last audit and the outcome
- Target high and medium risk activities

Service Delivery

- Internal by ICT services
- Externally by third party companies
- Partnership working involving the transfer of data between Nottinghamshire County Council and partner organisations

Assurance Mapping

- Reviews and assessments by external bodies
 - Public Services Network assessment
- IT Health Checks
- Microsoft – Active Directory
- Risual – DirectAccess for connecting tablets to the network
- Management controls and reviews

Internal Audit Approach

- External reviews
 - Examine review output
 - Determine the extent to which it covers the risks
 - Identify remedial actions to be taken and obtain details of planned and completed actions to remedy risks



Internal Audit Approach

- Obtain details of management reviews of externally provided services
- Assess adequacy regarding frequency and range of coverage
- Check that issues have been raised with provider and remedial actions planned and taken

Internal Audit Approach

- Identify and agree the risks with management
- Determine the expected controls and match against the actual management controls
- Test for compliance and substantiate that the expected results are produced
- Identify failures of control and/ or outcomes
- Make recommendations to improve control and agree actions with management



High Risk Areas

- Business Management System
- Public Services Network
- Internet Controls
- Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub
- Frameworki
- Abacus



Integration with Systems Audits

- ICT elements are reviewed as part of each relevant system audit
- Focus is on
 - Ownership and management
 - Security and access controls
 - Data input, processing and output controls
 - Business continuity arrangements

Projects

- Identify projects to become involved in
- Role of “critical friend” to ensure that risks are identified and mitigated
- Example of projects reviewed
 - Business management System
 - Civica Universal Pensions Management
 - IT Mobilisation
- This work requires a much more proactive approach and the production of timely output